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A.—(*a*) Yes.
(*b*) The Government have no information.

Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur :—" With regard to answer to clause (*b*) will Government call for the information ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I shall ask the Director of Public Instruction about it. But I fear the name of the present District Educational Officer is not Abdul Hamid Khan, but Mr. Abdul Hamid Sahib. " (Laughter.)

Khan Bahadur Mahmud Schamnad Sahib Bahadur :—" May I know whether the District Educational Officer reported that the post of a special officer is necessary for popularising education among the Mappillas ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I shall cause an inquiry to be made by the Director of Public Instruction."

Introduction of a common course of study in elementary and secondary schools.

* 1782 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state the steps taken so far, for the introduction of a common course of study for the two classes of institutions—standards I to V of elementary schools and classes I to V of secondary schools ?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Modification of the course of study in higher elementary schools.

* 1783 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state the steps, if any, taken up-to-date to make the course of study in higher elementary schools distinct from that in middle schools and adapt it to suit the needs of the class of pupils who will attend them ?

A.—The Government have called for the information.

Instruction in gardening and horticulture to teachers of elementary and middle schools.

* 1784 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state the measures, if any, taken to give a short course of instruction in gardening and horticulture to the teachers of elementary and middle schools and the proposals, if any, submitted by the Director of Public Instruction in the matter ?

A.—Proposals for giving instruction in gardening to teachers in higher elementary and middle schools are under consideration.

Alleged irregular payment of teachers' allowances in Kurnool district.

* 1785 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar : Will the hon. the Minister for Education and Local Self-Government be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government are making any allotment to the District Board, Kurnool, or to any of the taluk boards under it for schools maintained by them at Rs. 19 per teacher for his pay and Rs. 2 towards an additional allowance, and if not at those rates, at what other rates ; and

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(b) whether the Taluk Board, Markapur, pays the teachers concerned at Rs. 13 per month and disburses the extra allowance due to them very irregularly at intervals extending over several months and even more than a year and a half ?

A.—(a) Since 1924–25 the Government have been granting subsidies to local bodies towards the opening of new elementary schools for boys in school-less centres with a population of 500 and over and since 1927–28 subsidies are being similarly granted towards the opening of girls' schools in school-less centres with a population of 2,000 and over. In calculating the subsidy payable to a boys' school, the pay of teachers is calculated at the rate of Rs. 19 for trained teachers whose number has been taken at 75 per cent of the total number and Rs. 15 for the remaining 25 per cent which has been taken to be the probable number of untrained teachers. In the case of girls' schools a uniform rate of Rs. 20 is adopted. In addition the Government pay subsidies towards the Rs. 4 allowance in respect of teachers employed in the old schools on condition that the local body concerned contributes an equal amount from its general revenues; this allowance is not paid to teachers employed in the new schools opened since 1924–25. The District Board, Kurnool, maintains no elementary schools, and therefore receives no subsidy. Subsides are paid to the Local Bodies in Kurnool which maintain elementary schools.

(b) The Government have no information.

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I ask the Minister whether the teachers are really paid Rs. 19 a month as salary ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" Government give grants to local bodies at this rate, and they expect them to pay the staff at this rate. Till now they have no information that this is not being done. After the allegations made by the hon. Member, we have addressed the local body concerned to get the necessary information to find out whether the allegations are correct."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" Is the hon. Minister aware of the fact that generally in the case of taluk board schools the scales of pay are lower than those fixed on which Government give the grant, and as a matter of fact teachers are not paid their salary at the rate fixed by Government ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" They are supposed to pay at the rate on which Government give the grant; if that is not done they will be compelled to do so. In this particular taluk board the pay is fixed at Rs. 15 and an allowance of Rs. 4 is also given to teachers."

Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar :—" May I know whether that rule is really followed there ? "

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I shall have this ascertained."

Mr. G. Harisarvottama Rao :—" Sir, in the Taluk Board of Nandyal no teacher is paid at the rate at which Government give the subsidy."

The hon. Dr. P. Subbarayan :—" I shall call for the information from the particular taluk board referred to by Mr. Ranganatha Mudaliyar; and if the hon. Member for Kurnool puts me another question with regard to any particular case I shall inquire into it as well."